

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are active in the present application. Claims 1 and 12 have been amended to limit ethanol as the only energy source. Claims 9, 11 and 14-16 have been amended to remove multiple dependencies. Claims 17-20 are new claims. Support for the new claims is found in the original claims. Support for the amendment is found on sheet 6A of the Article 34 Amendment. No new matter is believed to have been added by this amendment. An action on the merits and allowance of claims is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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3-14-2002IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows.

--1. (Amended) A differential culture medium for the enumeration of food and beverage contaminant yeasts of the *Dekkera* and *Brettanomyces* genera, characterized in that it comprises a nutrient base, ethanol as the only energy source, p-cumaric acid, an acid-base indicator with turning points in the acid range, an inhibitor antibiotic for sensitive yeasts species, and optionally a bacteria growth inhibitor and agar-agar.

9. (Amended) A culture medium according to [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1, characterized in that it contains all the components except agar-agar, to detect and identify yeasts of the *Dekkera* and *Brettanomyces* genera in food and beverage products containing mixed populations of yeasts, bacteria and particularly filamentous fungi.

11. (Amended) A differential culture medium for enumeration of food and beverage contaminant yeasts of the *Dekkera* and *Brettanomyces* genera according to [the preceding claims] claim 1, characterized by the sterilization of all the components is done by filtration, except for the agar-agar which is sterilized in autoclave; the addition under aseptic conditions to this solution, after agar-agar cooling and before it solidifies, of all the other components of the medium, previously sterilized by filtration; and the dispensing of the medium into Petri dishes so that it solidifies.

12. (Amended) A process for the detection and/or identification of yeasts of the *Dekkera* and *Brettanomyces* genera, characterized by the use of a differential culture medium for enumeration of food and beverage contaminant yeasts of the *Dekkera* and *Brettanomyces* genera, comprising a nutrient base, [a non-fermentable energy source] ethanol as the only energy source, p-cumaric acid, an acid-base indicator with turning points in the acid range, an inhibitor antibiotic for some of the yeast species, and optionally a bacteria growth inhibitor and agar-agar.

14. (Amended) A process for the detection and/or identification of yeasts of *Dekkera* and *Brettanomyces* genera according to [claims 12 and 13] claim 12, characterized in that it is applied to the detection and enumeration of yeasts of the *Dekkera* and *Brettanomyces* genera in food and beverage products samples.

15. (Amended) use of a culture medium according to [claims 1 and 11] claim 1, for inclusion in an identification gallery, together with other yeast identification tests.

16. (Amended) Use of a culture medium according to [claims 1 to 11] claim 1 in an industry, particularly in the quality and process control in a food and beverage industry.

Claims 17-20 (New).--